

# McNairy County Independent.

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We now have a cream station located here at Warren Grocery Co., and now farmers have a market for any quality of cream they may furnish, which will equal an average of 30c per pound for their butter in cash, and thereby save the worry and labor of making the butter. Mr. Hall, who is working in the interest of the railway company, and who was successful in establishing this much needed enterprise, and Mr. Like, who is representing the Delaval Cream Separator, are here now, introducing the separator, which is sold on 30 days free trial with a \$11 payments thereafter. This is a much needed enterprise, and our farmers should feel considerably favored by having this opportunity offered them, as it will undoubtedly prove a very profitable enterprise and should be encouraged by all progressive citizens.

## The Crop Outlook

The recent rains causing overflowing of all low lands here resulted in largely damaging the corn crops of McNairy County.

Much late corn was planted on low or rather wet level bottom lands.

Some early corn was planted on hill or upland and is doing well.

All the low places on the bottom lands remained under water so long that the young corn has been ruined. This late planting covered the best corn lands, and should have made the main bulk of the crop. It is now too late to plant the land to any crop except millet, or let it go to grass and cut for coarse hay.

The cotton crop seems to be doing exceptionally well. The growth is heavy and the fruiting abundant. But little cotton is on low land. If nothing befalls the crop, it will be a large one. Corn cannot be a full crop under the best future conditions of the weather.

## L. S. Perkins to Lecture

There is a movement on foot to invite our New York correspondent, Mr. Lindsay S. Perkins, to give two or more lectures during a portion of next month, on a subject connected with New York City and its sights, and perhaps upon other topics of interest. It is understood that Mr. Perkins will be satisfied to receive actual traveling expenses, and will in any event divide half the proceeds of his lectures with any charitable or public object that may be desired by the committee having the matter in hand. Those who have followed the interesting letters from New York which have for the past six months appeared in the Independent do not need to be told that this man expresses himself in original and attractive style, and that whatever he says or writes will be sure to teach something new and useful or give added emphasis to some familiar truth. In this section, which was the boyhood home of Mr. Perkins, and where so many of his kindred were born and are still living, he should have a good audience for what he has to say about the greatest city in the world as it looks to him; about foreign languages and their study, about music, or whatever topic he may choose to touch upon. Those of Selmer and vicinity who are willing to pledge their attendance at these lectures (perhaps three in number) at twenty-five cents for adults and ten cents for children under twelve years, will kindly communicate that fact to the Independent or Roscoe Alexander, so that the committee having the matter in hand may know whether to invite Mr. Perkins or not. His stay will be necessarily short, during part of his vacation, and he will have to know in advance whether his lectures are desired.

## NEW YORK LETTER

New York takes its dinner about six o'clock, and an hour later is out for amusement, of which the theaters and the moving picture shows furnish the main part. There are thousands of "movie" show places here, some few of which may be seen for a nickel, but the most of them cost from ten cents to a quarter, and some of them as high as a dollar. You can see a pretty good movie and vaudeville show for fifteen to twenty-five cents. Vaudeville is the name of a French town, but just why it should be applied to that sort of a show I don't know. There are short acts or "stunts" of a few minutes each, dancing, juggling, acrobat performances, singing, monologues and dialogues, etc., most of which is tiresome to me. President Wilson and his wife often visit the vaudeville shows in Washington, and they are mostly very respectable. Once in awhile one hears some pretty broad jokes, but they know just how far to go. Some lame wit takes immensely with the crowds, and one hears things like the following repeated at many performances: Old maid comes in, sits down on a chair on which her niece has left a hat. "Great Caesar's ghost!" cries the niece; "Auntie, do you know what you're sitting on?" Auntie: "I reckon I ought to know, for I've been sitting on it for the past forty-five years." This is a very mild and elegant specimen in comparison with some of the things which are put out to amuse both young and old, and it actually seems often if the dialogue is not spiced with something a little off color, the people won't go.

New York is getting to have almost a language of its own, and you have to be here some time in order to understand all the people say. The great multitude of foreigners, especially Jews from various parts of the world, have left an impress upon the English that is spoken here. The word twenty is called "twintee," and a paper is called a "poiper," while a lady is a "liddy" or a "lidy." If one street urchin says to another: "Pipe dat guy wid de swell banner on 'im; he's tryin' to put one over on de bloke dat's wid 'im," he means that his attention is called to a fellow with a loud necktie on, who is evidently trying to get the best of a rather simple fellow that is with him. If a man says "I didn't do a t'ing to 'im," it means that he did the fellow up in great shape. "Fine! Fine!" with a sort of nasal drawl, signifies that the thing supposedly praised is of no value at all. "Go to it!" is advice to take up a task and do your best.

The cheap restaurants also have a language all their own. No well-posted New Yorker will call for pork and beans. It is simply "beans and." If he wants ham and eggs, it is "ham and." Putting on the extra words would simply insult the intelligence of the hash-slinger. A fellow sauntered into a Bowery hash-foundry one day, "to feed his face," as he said, along with a friend, and said, as he took his seat, to the waiter: "Two rubber tires and one in the dark." His friend did not understand, but the waiter did, and soon appeared with a couple of doughnuts and a cup of black coffee. "Now," said the other, "I will make an order, and I defy you to twist it up like that. I want two poached eggs broken on toast." Without a moment's hesitation his friend turned to the waiter and said, in pure Manhattanese: "Adam and Eve on a raft, and them wrecked." And broken eggs and toast were soon brought. Of course, lingo like that is not current at Delmonico's and such places, where the waiters are mostly French or Greeks, and only straight English is customary.

You can get a fair meal here for twenty-five cents, if you want to go to a very cheap place, for example a beer saloon and restaurant combined. Fifty cents is the common price for a square dinner at a cheap restaurant of the better class; seventy-five cents will get a really good meal at a good place. For a dollar you can dine in a Hungarian restaurant or wine cellar down among the casks, while sweet music is delivered by the bands. A

## Dudley Porter

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W. LUCKMAN, AGENT; N. C. & St. L. Ry., Jackson, Tenn.

meal at the Vanderbilt or Waldorf Astoria will cost you from \$3 up. And that "up" is away up yonder, I can tell you. If things out of season are called for, such as shad in August, it will cost you a pretty penny, as will also rare fruits and wines.

At a dinner given in my honor at the Vanderbilt Hotel on the evening of May 5th by the Commercial Attache of the Russian Embassy as a token of appreciation of my translations from Russian into English, etc., among the dishes were braised pheasant with celery sauce and French mushrooms. For wines they had champagne, lime cocktails and Chartreuse. The last named was served in glasses about the size of your thumb, and one sip flashed through the head like a flame. I care for none of those strong drinks, but it is interesting to taste them just once—and no more, although I would not advise young people to even taste them, for they are bad on the health even in small quantities. Present at the dinner were Mr. Vladimir Ananieff, of the Attache's office; Mr. Tredjakoff, secretary of the Russian Consulate; Mr. Skvortsoff, artillery commissioner; Mr. Piotrowski, of the Russian Volunteer fleet, and Mr. Victor Gartz, counsel for the Consulate. The talk was nearly all in Russian, for most of these gentlemen have been in this country but a few months, and the subject was mostly Russian poetry, a favorite study of mine. It is remarkable how much like Americans these better-class Russians are, in appearance.

Some of the Russian names look pretty hard to pronounce, such as Schtscheglovitch, Przemysl (this is Polish), etc. One Russian official in authority during the Russo-Japanese war, von Liarliarsky, was facetiously suggested by the newspapers as a good man to send out as a truthful war correspondent. As a matter of fact, none of these names, nor even the language itself, is hard for an American to learn to pronounce. French is much more difficult for us so far as pronunciation is concerned. Considering the enormous population of Russia (the last census gave it 173,000,000) there are very few of them who come here, except the Russian Jews. There is an Orthodox or Christian Russian church here—perhaps several of them—and it is said that the singing in their choirs is particularly fine. The greatest Russian feast is Easter. Then the men go around kissing each other (and most of them have big beards, too!) and saying: "Khristos voskress!" (Christ is arisen!) I learn that there are only about 25,000 real Russians in this city. We know less about Russia and its people than we do about Central Africa, but just now there is a big demand for books from and about that great

country, and after the war many of the Russians are expected to come over here. The commerce between the two countries is growing at a great rate, and young men who have learned the language are sent over by their firms at big salaries to do business with the Russian people direct. It is said that their foreign trade now amounts to more than three hundred million dollars a year, and is growing. Some time I may have more to say about the Russian language, having secured the type of the alphabet to try on ye editor's press, but very carefully, for fear it might smash something, or get itself smashed.

A few more words about the city itself. New York has a low death rate. For the sick who can pay for it, there is room in the great hospitals. To one, the Bellevue, those who have nothing at all can go and have the best of treatment, free. At many places there are dispensaries where medicines and advice are given out free of cost. The city water is the best I have ever tasted, coming from the Croton river, many miles away, where a water-shed of fifteen hundred square miles has been cleaned of everything like soil or impurity, and it takes half a billion gallons a day to

supply the city. There are free colleges, high schools, night schools, libraries and museums, and numberless free lectures and concerts. Great, splendid New York, for those who wish to rise; terrible, wicked New York (but still improving all the time) for those who wish to fall!  
LINDSAY S. PERKINS.

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## BUCK SNORT ANSWERED

### Another Voice from Hickory Hollow

Our honored town Is getting entirely too much renown From a man who writes from Hickory Holler And claims to be a gentleman and a scholar; He is neither for he has owed me half a dollar Since last Christmas. Since then I have missed him us (not a good word, but it had to rime.) If I could n't rite poetry better than him I would go hang myself on a rotten hickory limb. Why, he can't spell rite to begin with And don't know no more about riting poetry than if He was a Greek And couldn't speak The American language. He gives me anguish. (I know that is shooting Words that are mighty high saluting But I had to make a rime To finish out the line.) Buck Snort had better go to school, But that will not cure a fool He had better study grammar-law: He wrote "I seed" when he should have wrote "I have saw." So Buck Snort May be a great old sport But he isn't no poet, Or if he is, I don't know it. So, Buck Snort, pay what you owe it, Me that half dollar, Or I will write again From Hickory Holler.

BILL HICKORYBUD

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